

**PROMOTOR(A) OR COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER (CHW)
TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

AGENDA

Tuesday, June 25, 2002, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

UT Pan American, ITT Building, #1.210, 1201 w. University Drive, Edinburg, Texas

10:30-10:40	Welcome and introductions	Edna Dougherty Presiding Officer
10:40-10:50	Approval of minutes	Edna Dougherty Presiding Officer
10:50-11:20	Committee business: Review revised draft of Promotor(a)/CHW application Administrative rule review—25 TAC 146.1-146.10	Cecilia Berrios, M.A. Community Health Promotion Specialist
11:20-11:35	Summary of Health and Human Services Commission evaluation of colonias pilots	David Luna Director of Border Affairs Texas Health and Human Services Commission
11:35-12	Update on subcommittee appointments and role of subcommittees	Edna Dougherty Presiding Officer
12-12:15	Advisory committee's involvement with Promotores: Members' point of view	Lorenza Zuniga, Advisory Committee Member, El Paso
12:15-12:30	Advisory committee's presentation at National Community Health Worker Workshop	Edna Dougherty Presiding Officer
12:30-1:00	Break/distribute lunch	Staff
1-1:15	New business, next meeting dates for 2002 and agenda items for August meeting	Edna Dougherty Presiding Officer
1:15-1:45	Public comment	Edna Dougherty Presiding Officer
1:45-2	Adjourn	

PROMOTOR(A) OR COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

June 25, 2002

Members Present: Edna Dougherty, Maria Teresa de Llano, Oscar Muñoz, Graciela Camarena, Paul Villas, Lorenza Zuniga and Kevin Hunt. Mr. Hunt was appointed as a new member of the committee by the Board of Health at the June 13, 2002 meeting.

Members Absent: Elizabeth Kelly and Elaine Hernandez.

- I. Welcome and Introductions:** Edna Dougherty welcomed the committee, TDH staff and the audience. She thanked Dr. Paul Villas for hosting this meeting at UT Pan American in Edinburg. Ms. Dougherty informed the audience that Cecilia Berrios would be providing simultaneous Spanish translation at this meeting.
- II. Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the May 28, 2002 meeting were approved as written. Maria Teresa de Llano moved for approval and Graciela Camarena seconded the motion.
- III. Committee Business:** Cecilia Berrios discussed the revised draft of the Promotor(a) or Community Health Worker application for certification. The committee indicated that the subcommittee on the Promotor(a) or Community Health Worker Application Process would be recommending additional changes to this form. Ms. Berrios explained that at this time she did not have any information on the rule change process relating to 25 Texas Administrative Code, §146.1-146.10. Ms. Berrios announced that Graciela Camarena and Oscar Muñoz were reappointed to serve on the committee by the Board of Health at the June 13, 2002 meeting.
- IV. Summary of Health and Human Services Commission Evaluation of Colonias Pilots:** David Luna, Director of Border Affairs with the Health and Human Services Commission, presented the summary findings of the Health and Human Services Colonias Initiative. The three pilot sites in the Rio Grande Valley include the colonias of Progreso, Sebastian and Cameron Park. The one-year evaluation determined that colonia residents have experienced increased access to health and human services through the coordinated schedules of six health and human services agencies at the A&M Community Centers at the three pilots. Mr. Luna stated that two factors which contributed to the initiative's success included working with Promotores(as) and using local community centers. He indicated that the initiative has expanded to Laredo and El Paso. Mr. Luna explained that his office is interested in developing new partnerships to increase access to health and human services to colonia residents.
- V. Update on Subcommittee Appointments and Role of Subcommittees:** Edna Dougherty reviewed subcommittee appointments and asked subcommittee chairs to list their members, as detailed below:

Promotor(a) or Community Health Worker Application Process:

Lorenza Zuniga, Chair

Maria Teresa de Llano

Dr. Jim Zukowski, Texas Department of Health, Austin, ad hoc member (prefers to serve as consultant)

Dr. Edli Colberg, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Austin, ad hoc member

Dr. Darrell Williams, former PPDC member, El Paso, ad hoc member

Instructor Application Process:

Oscar Muñoz, Chair

Kermit Black, former PPDC member, Center for Housing and Urban Development, Texas A&M University, Bryan-College Station, ad hoc member

Sister Rosemary Welch, Laredo, ad hoc member

Dr. Susan Baker, Laredo, ad hoc member

Dr. Miriam Aguilar, Laredo, ad hoc member

Sponsoring Institution/Curriculum Application Process:

Elizabeth Kelly, Chair

Elaine Hernandez

Kathleen Becan McBride, former PPDC member, UT Health Science System, Houston, ad hoc member

Geneva Morris, Ph.D., RN, Houston, ad hoc member

Melanie Gilmore, Bryan, ad hoc member

Margaret Goetz, M.D., Houston, ad hoc member

Rule Review Process:

Graciela Camarena, Chair

Dr. Paul Villas

David Luna, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Harlingen, ad hoc member.

Arturo Gil, Texas Workforce Commission, Austin, ad hoc member

Debbie Cortez, Harlingen, ad hoc member

Ileana Hinojosa, Weslaco, ad hoc member

Edna Dougherty, Chair, asked Donna Nichols to discuss subcommittee role and responsibilities. Ms. Nichols recommended a process, including: discussion via phone among committee chair, subcommittee chairs and TDH staff to identify charge and expected outcomes, invite stakeholders to participate in the process and develop a feedback system to ensure information is communicated back to the committee and stakeholders. Ms. Dougherty stated that Cecilia Berrios would contact subcommittee chairs to inform them of the date and time for the subcommittee discussion.

- VI. Advisory Committee's Involvement with Promotores:** Members' point of view: Lorenza Zuniga of El Paso, Committee Member, discussed her experience as a Promotora and shared her views about the training and certification program. Ms. Zuniga talked about the important role a Promotora has in her community. She stressed the importance of meeting community needs and serving as a teacher to promote health education. Ms. Zuniga talked about her roots and the importance of being proud about one's culture, customs and traditions. Ms. Zuniga mentioned that she started as a volunteer, but is now a paid Promotora. She stated that for those who want to continue serving as volunteers that is a good community contribution. But, she feels that Promotoras deserve to be paid. Ms. Zuniga expressed her desire to obtain the certificate which will formalize her experience as a Promotora.
- VII. Advisory Committee's Presentation at National Community Health Worker Conference:** Donna Nichols thanked Dr. Paul Villas and his staff for hosting the meeting and for providing lunch. Ms. Nichols presented the PowerPoint slide series she used at the national conference of the Association of State and Territorial Directors of Health Promotion and Public Health Education in New Orleans. The committee would like Ms. Nichols to conduct this presentation at the National Community Health Worker Conference in San Antonio set for August 28-30. The committee also wishes to serve as a panel at the upcoming conference led by subcommittee chairs. Maria Teresa recommended that Lorenza Zuniga's presentation be incorporated as part of the committee's piece because it was very powerful.
- VIII. New Business, Next Meeting Dates for 2002 and Agenda Items for August Meeting:** Edna Dougherty reminded members that the next meeting was set for Tuesday, August 27 in San Antonio. The meeting will coincide with the National Community Health Worker Conference set for August 28-30. Possible agenda items recommended for the August 27, 2002 meeting include: subcommittee reports and rule review.
- IX. Public Comment:** Maria Ibarra, Promotora with Migrant Health Promotion stated that she has been working as a Promotora for 11 years. She explained that she loves helping others and believes that the certification program will help her continue doing her job. Ms. Ibarra explained that at times community members ask her if she has a degree. The certificate will be beneficial.

Gregoria Villegas stated that she supports the certification program because it will give much value to their work. She is concerned that there may be too many requirements, such as speaking English. Ms. Villegas explained that she does understand English somewhat, but cannot speak. She believes that this will be a barrier for her to obtain her certificate. She has been a paid Promotora for three years. However, at this time, she is no longer being paid. Still, she is a volunteer Promotora because of her strong commitment to her work. She maintains that the certification is important, but stressed the importance of volunteering.

Yari Guerrero stated that the certificate is very important because it will provide them with an identification. She expressed that she was very proud of serving as a Promotora since her work contributes to informing and educating the community. Often times, colonia residents are unaware of services that are available in their community. Promotora means having a heart to help others. Ms. Guerrero believes that the certification is very important. Although she does not speak English, she maintains that this is not a barrier for Promotoras. She indicated that most of the colonia residents speak Spanish. She does not have a GED and wonders if this will prevent her from obtaining a certificate. Maria Teresa de Llano, committee member, explained that neither a GED nor speaking English were requirements for certification.

Alicia Vasquez, Promotora Coordinator with Mujeres Unidas, urged the committee to provide the certification to Promotoras who have earned this recognition through their work and experience.

Dr. Ida Acuña with the Texas Cooperative Extension Service expressed her interest in the certification program. She works with the Master Volunteer Program which helps participants improve their skills in an area of interest. For example, the Master Clothing Volunteer Program helps participants improve their skills in that subject matter. Besides 50 hours in the subject matter, participants receive training in communication skills, teaching skills, organizational skills, among others. In turn, participants teach 15 women how to sew.

Ana Delgado, Promotora with Clinica Planned Parenthood, expressed her appreciation to the committee for its work on the certification program. She has worked as a paid and unpaid Promotora for six years and believes that the certificate will recognize her efforts.

Maria Gudiño is a volunteer Promotora. She is pleased to help others through her work as a Promotora. She works in Cameron Park where Promotoras are very active in educating the community. Ms. Gudiño stated that she is not interested in a certificate, but just wants to continue helping her community.

Marilu Rosas, Promotora with Texas A&M Community Center in Cameron Park, indicated that prior to being paid she was a volunteer for many years. She believes that the certificate is good, but the work she does comes from the heart and a desire to help others.

X. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES BY PRESIDING OFFICER

/ S /
Edna Dougherty, Chair

September 5, 2002
Date